

John Ruskin

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Sesame and Lilies

John Ruskin (1819 - 1900)

Sesame and Lilies proposes and answers the questions, how, what and why to read in the context of how and why to live. About a later edition of the book containing the first two lectures alone, Ruskin wrote:

"...chiefly written for young people belonging to the upper or undistressed, middle classes; who may be supposed to have choice of the objects and command of the industries

of their life... if read in connection with "Unto This Last" it contains the chief truths I have endeavored through all of my past life to display... and am chiefly thankful to have learned and taught." - Avallon, August 24, 1882

This revised and enlarged edition is comprised of two prefaces and three lectures. The Preface-Last Edition is the preface to the earlier edition and references the Alps. The two lectures, "Of Kings' Treasuries" and "Of Queens' Gardens," appeared alone in the first editions and last editions. These lectures were delivered in December 1864 at the town halls at Rusholme and Manchester. The third lecture, "Of the Mystery of Life and Its Arts" was delivered in the theater of the Royal College of Science, Dublin, 1868 and added to the book in editions first appearing in 1871.

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